

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3641

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 7126

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE

SUBJECT: CSCE COMMISSION - VISA REFUSAL

REF: STATE 277519

1. AFTER CHARGEMADE DEMARCHE (REFTEL) TO GDR DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER GRUNERT DURING NOVEMBER 17 MEETING, GRUNERT MADE FOLLOWING REMARKS ABOUT GDR ATTITUDE TOWARD CSCE COMMISSION: THE GDR HAS "CONCERNS" REGARDING ITS OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITY; IT IS LOOKED ON AS AN EFFORT AT INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES; THE COMMISSION SEEKS TO BE THE "OVERSEER" OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS' POLICIES; AND THERE APPEARS TO BE CONTROVERSY IN THE US ITSELF ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE COMMISSION.

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2. THESE REMARKS BY GRUNERT WERE FOLLOWED BY A LENGTHY

GENERAL STATEMENT ON CSCE IN WHICH HE NOTED THAT: THE GDR IS PLEASED THE US INTENDS TO FULFILL THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT AS A WHOLE; IT IS THE GDR'S POSITION TO CARRY OUT, IN CONFORMITY WITH ITS ABILITIES AND POLICIES, THE FINAL ACT; THERE CAN'T BE WISHFUL THINKING, HOWEVER, ON WHAT EACH GOVERNMENT MUST DO SINCE CSCE AND THE FINAL ACT REPRESENT THE COMMON VIEWS OF ALL THE PARTICIPANTS; FOR ITS PART, THE GDR AFTER HELSINKI DID TAKE, AND WILL TAKE, STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE FINAL ACT; THE GDR HAS BEEN HOLDING PERIODIC TALKS WITH SOCIALIST AS WELL AS WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACT AND PREPARATION FOR BELGRADE. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE GDR IS ALSO INTERESTED IN AND PREPARED TO HOLD TALKS WITH THE USG EITHER IN BERLIN OR IN WASHINGTON ON PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE. (GRUNERT MADE THE SAME PITCH AS DID AMBASSADOR SIEBER TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN NOVEMBER 12 STATE 281747 NOTAL); THE GDR LOOKS ON BELGRADE AS A CONTINUATION OF THE MULTILATERAL PROCESS BEGUN AT GENEVA AND HELSINKI AND IS OF THE VIEW THAT THE BELGRADE MEETING SHOULD HAVE A CONSULTATIVE CHARACTER, WITH NO EFFORT MADE TO CHANGE OR REFORMULATE THE FINAL ACT.

3. IN REPLY, THE CHARGE NOTED THE CSCE COMMISSION WAS A REFLECTION OF THE SERIOUS INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE CONGRESS, THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND THE US PUBLIC IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT; IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD AS SUCH BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS; THE INABILITY OR UNWILLINGNESS OF GOVERNMENTS TO RECEIVE COMMISSION MEMBERS CREATES DOUBTS IN US ABOUT READINESS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO DISCUSS SERIOUSLY THE FINAL ACT; IT IS THIS WHICH HAS LED TO ARTICLES IN THE US PRESS; THERE WAS NO EFFORT OR DESIRE ON THE PART OF THE COMMISSION TO INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS. WHAT IS INTENDED AND DESIRED IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON CSCE. WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO ACCEPT THE GDR OFFER TO HOLD BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON CSCE, AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN HAD TOLD AMBASSADOR SIEBER (STATE 287147 NOTAL). AT THE SAME TIME, SINCE IT REPRESENTS A DIFFERENT AND CONFIDENTIAL

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IMPORTANT CONSTITUENCY ALSO INTERESTED IN CSCE IMPLEMENTATION, WE WOULD STILL LIKE TO RECEIVE GDR VIEWS ON THE MATTER OF FUTURE CONTACT BETWEEN CSCE COMMISSION AND STAFF MEMBERS AND GDR OFFICIALS HERE OR THE US TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION. GRUNERT SAID THAT THE "MONITORING" CHARACTER OF THE COMMISSION MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR THE GDR TO CHANGE ITS MIND, THAT HE DOUBTED THAT ITS POSITION WOULD CHANGE, BUT UNDER-

TOOK TO BE IN TOUCH ON THE SUBJECT. POLANSKY

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